

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: November 8, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:07 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 5:24 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Joanne Sanders, Chair
Paul Bateman
Vernon Brown
Jackie Nytes
Becky Langsford

Absent Members

Lynn McWhirter
Lincoln Plowman

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 553, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$22,715 in the 2006 Budget of the Cable Communications Agency (Consolidated County Fund) to purchase software for a webstreaming project that will allow government access programming to be available on the City-County website

“Do Pass”

Vote 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 554, 2006 - determines the need to lease approximately 16,000 square feet of space at 980 Western Drive for use as warehouse space by the Department of Public Safety for and on behalf of Indiana Task Force One, an urban search and rescue task force

“Do Pass as Amended”

Vote 5-0

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Administration and Finance Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, November 8, 2006. Chair Joanne Sanders called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. with the following members present: Paul Bateman, Vernon Brown, and Jackie Nytes. Becky Langsford arrived shortly thereafter. Absent were Councillors Lynn McWhirter and Lincoln Plowman.

PROPOSAL NO. 553, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$22,715 in the 2006 Budget of the Cable Communications Agency (Consolidated County Fund) to purchase software for a webstreaming project that will allow government access programming to be available on the City-County website

Rick Maultra, Director, Cable Communications Agency, said that the Agency has wanted to do a project such as this for many years, and now they are able to financially overcome the hurdle of having problems with broadband. He said that the Agency has found a third-party that will be the broadband host so that the City's internal broadband will not be greatly affected. Mr. Maultra said that currently only people with Comcast or Brighthouse Cable are able to watch government proceedings, but with the software, the proceedings will be available to people worldwide. There is also an "On Demand" feature that is being examined where one can look up archived meetings and is able to go through a digest and to go directly to a particular section of the meeting. Mr. Maultra said that intranet "On Demand" training is also being evaluated. He said that the Agency hopes to eventually have a video available to promote economic development. He said that his association with the National Association of Telecoms Officers and Advisors (NATOA) taught him that there are thousands of people in China that were accessing the website to Washington, DC to watch City Council meetings. Mr. Maultra explained that if the right video was produced and advertised via the website, a company looking to relocate their business to Indianapolis could use those resources to finalize the decision. He said that the Agency has cooperatively been working with the Information Services Agency (ISA) so that some of the costs will come out of the Cable Communications Agency's budget and some will come from the ISA budget. He said that the proposal will allow for monies to be moved from Character 04 to Character 03 to pay for the software component.

Councillor Nytes said that this is exciting as she believes that many young people have developed a pattern of receiving news via the internet as opposed to television. She said that she has talked to a number of college students who have stated that they do everything on their computers. Councillor Nytes asked if there will be links and references on the indygov.org website. Mr. Maultra answered that he believes that is ISA's goal, and he believes that the links will not only be on the Cable Agency Channel 16 web page, but that it would also be on individual department's web pages.

Councillor Nytes if the expense is a one-time cost for the software or are ongoing costs anticipated. Mr. Maultra answered that it is a one-time cost for the software and hardware that totals approximately \$58,000, and then there is a reoccurring monthly maintenance fee of \$2,349 that will be split between the Cable Agency, Channel 16 and ISA for the first year that begins in 2007. He said that Channel 16 will pick up the software cost of \$39,000 and some hardware

costs. Mr. Maultra said that a key note speaker at the NATOA conference in August stated that there is very little passive entertainment and the wave of the future is all interactive.

Chair Sanders asked if the name of the third-party, broadband host can be disclosed. Mr. Maultra answered in the affirmative and stated that it is a company named Granicus that serves about 150 municipalities around the country. He said that they are by far the best and most widely used webstreaming host.

Councillor Bateman commended the Agency and stated that he believes that this will be an excellent tool that provides an opportunity to expose City government to a generation of people that would never watch Channel 16.

Councillor Nytes asked what would be affected in Character 04 by transferring the \$22,000 to Character 03. Mr. Maultra answered that the money would have been earmarked for equipment for Channel 16, and it is believed that the money is better used to purchase the software for this project. He said that there is enough in the Paid Grant Fund that carries forward that can be used to cover any type of hardware or equipment costs for Channel 16.

[Clerk's note: Councillor Langsford arrived 5:15 p.m.]

Councillor Bateman moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to forward Proposal No. 553, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 554, 2006 - determines the need to lease approximately 16,000 square feet of space at 980 Western Drive for use as warehouse space by the Department of Public Safety for and on behalf of Indiana Task Force One, an urban search and rescue task force

Dawn Sykes, Financial Manager Indiana Task Force Once, said that the name that is listed in Section 2 of the resolution reads D & B Development Company, LLC, but should read B & D Development Company, LLC.

Councillor Nytes moved, seconded by Councillor Langsford, to amend the title to B & D Development Company, LLC. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Sykes said that the resolution is to acquire additional space. She distributed a handout, Exhibit A, of pictures illustrating current and proposed warehouse space. She said that the Task Force currently stores all inventory at 7151 N. Perimeter, which is approximately 3,600 square feet (sq.ft.).

[Clerk's note: a copy of Exhibit A is on file in the Council Office with the original set of minutes.]

Ms. Sykes said that the Task Force is unable to keep all vehicles inside of the warehouse and some of the equipment is kept in a secure place inside the office. She stated that in renting the property at 980 Western Drive, the Task Force will acquire 16,000 sq.ft, access to a sprinkler

system, availability of high-rack storage, and all vehicles will be able to be kept on the inside. She said that a loading dock will also be able to be utilized.

Chair Sanders asked how long the lease is for the current space. Ms. Sykes said that the current space is an indefinite lease with the Airport Authority that does not have to be paid. She said that the current facility will be reserved and used as an overflow.

Councillor Nytes asked how long the lease will be on the new facility. Ms. Sykes answered that the lease is written as a five-year lease with an option to extend at the end, and is contingent upon grant funding. She said that the Urban Search and Rescue program is grant funded; therefore, everything will be paid.

Councillor Nytes asked if the current cycle of approved funding is for the program. Ms. Sykes answered that funding is guaranteed for fiscal year 2007, and many notices have been received about funding for fiscal year 2008. Those funds are projected to increase. Councillor Nytes asked what the per square foot cost of the lease will be. Ms. Sykes answered that it will be \$550. Councillor Nytes asked if the owner of the property is anyone who is connected to City government or the Emergency Operations Program in any way. Tom Neal, Training Coordinator, answered in the negative.

Chair Sanders asked what the distance is between Western Drive and Perimeter. Mr. Neal answered that it is half a mile.

Councillor Nytes moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to forward Proposal No. 554, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass as Amended" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Administration and Finance Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Sanders, Chair
Administration and Finance Committee

JMS/nsm